

May 15, 2009

Senator Daniel K. Inouye
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
522 Hart Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Thad Cochran
Vice Chair
Committee on Appropriations
113 Dirksen Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Patty Murray
Chair
THUD and Related Agencies
173 Hart Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Christopher Bond
Ranking Member
THUD and Related Agencies
304 Russell
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Inouye, Cochran, Murray and Bond:

Please accept this application for appropriations in the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies for my state:

Akutan Airport
City of Akutan
Akutan, Alaska
\$2,000,000

Akutan is comprised of an Alaska Native Village of roughly 100 permanent residents and a world-scale seafood processing plant with an average of 1200 transient employees. It is one of the largest seafood ports in the nation. It is currently served by the World War II vintage amphibious plane, the Grumman Goose. The only air carrier (PenAir) has stated publicly that it has been increasingly difficult to keep the float plane in operation and the company has been operating under FAA waivers for years (one of the planes crashed last year beyond repair). PenAir states that the remaining aircraft may only have a few usable years left. The State of Alaska and the FAA have engaged in a planning process to develop a Twenty Year Master Plan for a future on-land runway. A site has been selected on nearby Akun Island. The FAA completed an Environmental Assessment this past year and has issued a Record of Decision recommending that the project go forward.

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Juneau International Airport Passenger Terminal Improvements, Phase 2
City and Borough of Juneau
Juneau, Alaska
\$3,000,000

Funding is requested to begin Phase II of passenger terminal improvements at Juneau International Airport (JNU), which is owned by the City & Borough of Juneau. Phase II consists of demolition and construction of a new North Wing. The funds requested will go toward the design process and 12 months of public scoping meetings in connection with Phase II.

In December 2003, the JNU Board endorsed the concept of renovation of the existing terminal, as opposed to new construction. In 2005, a renovation master plan was developed to address critical needs and consider modest future needs based on projected calculations. The concept called for demolishing the older (circa 1950) sections of the terminal, modernizing the 1985 portion, adding toward the east end of the site, and constructing a covered parking facility.

Phase I of the project calls for renovation of the main terminal baggage claim, departure lounge and TSA security areas. Phase I is fully funded at \$23.5 million from a variety of sources and is scheduled to break ground April 2009.

Alaska Aviation Safety Project
Alaska Department of Transportation
Juneau, Alaska
\$1,000,000

The Alaska Aviation Safety Project (AASP) is an on-going project closely aligned with the Medallion Foundation, NIOSH, FAA and NASA. The AASP supports the Medallion Foundation's mission by supplying data rich training products for use in a simulation environment for aviation training purposes. Both programs were founded in 2001 to address the unacceptable rate of aviation crashes in Alaska resulting in casualties substantially higher than the national average. Both programs support and substantially enhance the achievement of the stated goals of NASA, FAA and NIOSH.

Ambler Airport Expansion/Gravel Source
City of Ambler
Ambler, Alaska
\$2,000,000

The City of Ambler is in need of a new airport expansion. Natural occurring asbestos has been found, so all Ambler projects have been on hold. Ambler needs assistance in finding a new gravel source, since all of the construction ready projects are on hold for gravel. The recently constructed road to the new sewer lagoon needs gravel as well as the lagoon itself to prevent erosion of the lagoon. This project is already in 2 years of construction and needs asbestos free gravel to be completed. A new gravel pad for the water and sewer pump house is needed, also upgrading the water and sewer lines to residents are corroding and needs immediate replacements. Ambler has a total of 26 residents that don't have water and sewer lines.

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Purchase, Deployment and Analysis of TAMDAR**University of Alaska****Prince William Sound****\$3,000,000**

This project will allow the purchase, deployment and analysis of flight safety equipment, known as TAMDAR (Tropospheric Ariborne Meterological Data Report). This equipment allows passive in-flight weather data collection and relay of this information to the National Weather Service and then relayed back to pilots.

Rural Alaska Lighting Program (RALP)**State of Alaska****Statewide****\$3,500,000**

This is an ongoing effort to provide 24-hour access for remote Alaskan communities to medical facilities as identified in House Report 106-940 that accompanied H.R. 4475, FY 2001 USDOT Appropriations. This project consists of providing Medium Intensity Runway Lights (MIRLS) and Precision Approach Path Indicators (PAPI) / Runway End Identifier Lights (REIL) for seven rural Alaskan airports serving remote Native Alaskan communities. This project will also fund electrical line extensions where necessary between the existing electrical lines and the airport. Electrical generation may also be included where it is more cost effective than an electrical line extension to the airport. None of these communities are accessible by road and thus, almost entirely rely on aviation for access. None of these airports currently have an operable permanent airport lighting system.

North Douglas Channel Crossing**City and Borough of Juneau****Juneau, Alaska****\$4,500,000**

Requested funds will finish the Environmental Impact Statement for the North Douglas Channel Crossing project, which is an effort to construct a bridge crossing over the Gastineau Channel from North Juneau to North Douglas Island.

Upgrade and Pave Borough Roads**Kodiak Island Borough****Kodiak, Alaska****\$2,000,000**

The Kodiak Island Borough has been struggling to meet the demand for maintaining its existing road system. Many of these roads are composed of compacted gravel topped with finer material. The local material used for road construction is slate that is quite soft and breaks down rapidly. During dry spells, fine airborne dust creates visibility hazards and respiratory health concerns. The road material presents a continuous struggle to maintain in a rainy climate, requiring frequent pot hole and drainage repair. The project involves asphalt paving for a portion of these deteriorated roads.

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North Shore Avenue Erosion Protection

City of Kotzebue

Kotzebue, Alaska

\$5,000,000

The purpose of the Kotzebue Erosion Protection – North Shore Avenue project, is to provide erosion protection along a 3,000 lineal feet of Shore Avenue, North and East of Crowley Dock, for residential and commercial areas. Over time, erosion has reduced road capacity, created unsafe driving conditions, and threatened residential and commercial buildings in this area. The design of the project would include a combination of shore protection utilizing both rip-rap revetment structures as well as sheet pile wall.

The area has historically been hit hard by fall storms, with large waves and ice blocks reaching the residences and causing damage to homes along the stretch of coastline. Within the past 10 years numerous storms have caused damage to this area as a result of longer summer periods and later ice formation. In 2002, large scale ice masses pushed up over the shoreline causing damage to roads and structures, requiring emergency actions by the City of Kotzebue. In 2004, a severe fall storm caused significant erosion to this area, and required significant repairs.

Upgrade Road and Utility Infrastructure on Japonski Island

City and Borough of Sitka

Sitka, Alaska

\$3,000,000

With federal funds, City and Borough of Sitka (CBS) can complete this long needed project to upgrade the deteriorating road and utility infrastructure on Japonski Island, some of which dates from World War II when the island was a Federal military base. With support from federal funds, Sitka has been able to complete much of this \$26 million upgrade. The Airport Access Road has been realigned, and urgent airport expansion including new commercial facilities can now occur.

When the Airport frontage road is built to serve the new lease lots, the utilities currently located within Airport must be relocated. The remaining projects are utility upgrades to replace failing roads and utilities; CBS will then take over their ownership and maintenance. The abandoned water tank, which is dangerously deteriorating, will also be removed.

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Shotgun Cove Road
City of Whittier
Whittier, Alaska
\$1,000,000

This project will continue construction of Shotgun Cove Road in Whittier, Alaska, including continued work on Phase I, from Cove Creek to Emerald Cove trailhead, and environmental documentation for Phase II, from Emerald Cove trailhead to Trinity Point.

This funding request will help complete a pioneer road approximately one mile in length between Cove Creek and Second Salmon Run Creek. This will allow a near term access route to Chugach Alaska Corporation (CAC) lands as well as a beachhead to City of Whittier lands. It will provide the basis for additional work desired by the City of Whittier to access municipal lands northeast of the Chugach Alaska property. The proposed pioneer road will be 10 feet wide at the top, have some turnouts for vehicle passing, and includes a crossing of Second Salmon Run Creek.

Shotgun Cove Road will eventually become a 12-mile, two-lane road extending from the Junction of Whittier Street and Eastern Avenue, near the railroad and ferry terminals in the Whittier core area, to Shotgun Cove, terminating near Decision Point. The project will provide needed road access to Federal, state, and municipal lands as well as to regional Alaska Native Corporation lands. The road project would connect Shotgun Cove to the Seward Highway and the rest of the National Highway System. Also, the project would link to the Alaska Marine Highway System and the highway terminal in Whittier.

Refuge Access and Road Safety Upgrades
Alaskans for Palmer Hay Flats
Wasilla, Alaska
\$110,000

This project would repair and upgrade access sites and roads in three Mat-Su Valley state game refuges including Palmer Hay Flats, Goose Bay and Susitna Flats. Many of the access sites and roads in these refuges are unsafe due to road disrepair and overuse. In their current state, the public is discouraged from using these access sites and the refuges. This project would improve these access sites so they are passable to passenger vehicles, provide adequate parking, protect wetland resources, mark access points with road signs so the public can locate them, remove debris creating unsafe conditions at access points, and upgrade trails and other facilities at access points.

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Port of Ketchikan Replacement of Berths 1 and 2

City of Ketchikan

Ketchikan, Alaska

\$5,000,000

The Port of Ketchikan recently determined there is an immediate need to expend \$26,000,000 to replace the wooden sections of Berths I and II, which are exhibiting advanced stages of structural deterioration.

Following a dive survey in the fall of 2007, emergency repairs were performed over the winter at a cost of \$1,959,565 in order to reopen the docks to tour bus traffic for the 2008 season. An additional \$396,453 in interim repairs will be undertaken in late winter/early spring of 2009.

The structural deterioration of Berths I and II has become a critical issue for the community. These docks are essential to the continuing health of the local economy and must be replaced with modern and safe facilities. Continued preservation of the wooden portion of the docks does not constitute a cost effective solution. The City has initiated efforts to undertake additional interim repairs and replacement of the wooden portion of the docks with steel piles and concrete decking. The project is planned for three phases beginning in the late winter/early spring of 2009, with goal of having all of the work completed by May 2012.

Replacement and Rehabilitation of Municipal Bridges and Trestles

City of Ketchikan

Ketchikan, Alaska

\$4,479,810

This project consists of the first year of a multi-year program to address the City of Ketchikan's aging and deteriorating municipal bridges and trestles. As Alaska's "first" and oldest City, Ketchikan's municipal bridges and trestles are beginning to deteriorate at an alarming rate. At the end of 2007, the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities issued its biennial inspection report of the bridge and trestle structures located within the City. The report detailed a series of improvements that, if undertaken, were thought sufficient to maintain the structures in a safe and serviceable condition.

Arterial Road Improvements

Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Palmer, Alaska

\$10,000,000

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough lacks a well developed arterial road network. There are only four north-south arterials and only three east-west arterials serving the central area of the Borough where most of the population resides. In addition, three of the top five most dangerous roads are located in the Borough; these proposed projects will improve traffic safety along these roads.

This project consists of constructing four new arterials, upgrading/extending three existing arterials, and providing separated pathways. The projects include: Jenson-Soapstone Connection, Dogwood Road Extension, Seward Meridian South Extension, Vine Road Upgrade, Seldon Road Upgrade, Seldon Road Extension, Hermon Road Extension, and non-motorized separated pathways.

These projects will provide significant congestion relief thereby improving travel times and traffic safety. Besides promoting efficient transportation, the projects will divert "cut-through" traffic from existing neighborhoods. The projects will also enhance long-term community and economic development.

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Road Construction from Noatak to Red Dog Mine Port**Northwest Arctic Borough****Noatak, Alaska****\$1,000,000**

This request supports construction of a road connecting Noatak, Alaska, to the Red Dog Mine Port, via the Red Dog Delong Mountain Transportation System (DMTS) port site road. Noatak is the third-largest community in the Northwest Arctic Borough/NANA Region, yet does not have access to a barge site, making cost and delivery of fuel and goods very expensive. The road, when constructed, will be between twenty-five and thirty miles long, and will provide access to resources and infrastructure that will lower residents' and agencies' costs of living and operation, and provide job and economic opportunity to Noatak. The road will also permit the Red Dog Mine to use the Noatak Airport, when necessary.

Cape Blossom Road to Port**Northwest Arctic Borough****Kotzebue, Alaska****\$5,000,000**

A road to Cape Blossom is new construction sought to connect to a deep water port area. This would lower the transportation of goods to the Northwest Arctic Region. As Kotzebue is the hub community for 9 smaller communities, goods are transported in to Kotzebue either through air or barge service and then further transported to the other communities. Barge service is much more costly to the transport of goods. This new road estimated between 19-26 miles would expand services for the hub community and offer new routes of transportation and access for goods.

Shishmaref Ear Mountain Road**City of Shishmaref****Shishmaref, Alaska****\$5,000,000**

Plans to relocate the village of Shishmaref have been focused on the mainland to the south across the Shishmaref inlet. The closest potential site for rip rap, crushed aggregate and other rock products is located at Ear Mountain. Ear Mountain is about 25 miles to the south of the village of Shishmaref. A six mile wide strip of the proposed road lies within the Bering Land Bridge National Preserve. The National Park Service has been working with the Corps of Engineers to conduct soil samples and drilling activities to draft out the feasibility of a 15 mile road to the Ear Mountain site. This road would be used as an access road from the inlet and barge landing to Ear Mountain. This will potentially create economic opportunities for the community of Shishmaref and also a northern access of rip rap material for the northern communities in Alaska.

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Treadwell Ditch Multi-purpose Trail Rehabilitation and Bridge Replacement**Trail Mix, Inc.****Juneau, Alaska****\$500,000**

Utilizing the historic trail corridor, this project will improve the existing Treadwell Ditch Trail to accommodate a variety of uses, including hiking, bicycling, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling. Because the existing trail was constructed on a berm of mineral soil and follows a gentle 1% grade for 17 miles, the project will result in a facility that is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act across much of its length. This project also will reopen a vital transportation corridor between the communities of Douglas and Juneau, and provide transportation alternatives to visitors of the Eaglecrest Ski Area and National Forest System lands.

WWII Causeway**Sitka Trail Works****Sitka, Alaska****\$1,000,000**

Sitka Trail Works is seeking \$1 million in Federal funding to pay for the repair of eroded sections of the Sitka World War II Causeway. The complete project will repair the Causeway sections, create hardened trails to interpreted features and provide marine access to the new Fort Rousseau Causeway State Historical Park.

Municipality of Anchorage Transportation Improvement Plan**Municipality of Anchorage****Anchorage, Alaska****\$5,000,000**

This funding will advance construction of several priority safety and congestion relief projects. Projects to receive funding are in the AMATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) which identifies AMATS Non-National Highway System Roadway priorities. Many projects have begun design efforts, but are not slated for federal funding for many years. This request is for design, right-of-way acquisition, utility, and construction funding. Construction on some projects could begin in 2010 if funding is provided. All projects being considered are priorities for the Municipality of Anchorage and the State of Alaska. Most are included in the "Connect Anchorage Initiative" jointly signed by Governor Murkowski and Mayor Begich in the fall of 2006. Funding will allow the construction of the priority projects to be accelerated providing immediate benefit to the Anchorage economy.

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Ballyhoo Road—Dutch Harbor
City of Unalaska
Unalaska, Alaska
\$1,500,000

The project involves the upgrading and paving of Ballyhoo Road in Dutch Harbor. Upgrading of the road will promote economic development and improved transportation access for the delivery of fish products sold in both interstate and international commerce. The Unalaska Port of Dutch Harbor is the number one commercial fishing port in the Nation. D.H. Ports, a privately held consortium, is investing \$150 million in a 30,000 ton cold storage facility on Ballyhoo Road in Dutch Harbor. This facility represents a significant investment in this community and its purpose is to improve the quality of fish products being shipped from the region.

Inter-island Ferry Authority Terminal in Ward Cove
Inter-island Ferry Authority
Craig, Alaska
\$2,200,000

The Inter-Island Ferry Authority will construct a ferry terminal and docking facility in Ward Cove to serve as its terminus for the Ketchikan-Hollis route. The project consists of approximately 120,000 square feet of filled site pad, paved, and a two story terminal with office spaces and drive through ticketing. A two story, 6,000 square foot maintenance shop with a 1,500 square foot mezzanine on one end. Southeast Alaska communities rely on ferry services for commerce, public safety, and health.

Areawide Village Road System Upgrades
North Slope Borough
Barrow, Alaska
\$5,000,000

There are several road projects included in this request. Kaktovik new subdivision road –provide access within Homesite Subdivision. Nuiqsut Colville River Road--construct a road from the village of Nuiqsut to the Colville River. Point Hope Evacuation Road – continue the design and construction of an emergency evacuation route out of the village of Pt. Hope. Wainwright and Pt. Lay roads –complete roads that are in the design phase and need construction funding.

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Fairbanks Area Rail Line Relocation
Alaska Railroad Corporation
Anchorage, Alaska
\$1,000,000

These funds will be used to complete the ongoing environmental assessment of relocating the Alaska Railroad out of downtown North Pole. This project will provide improvements in safety by eliminating of up to 10 highway/rail crossings along the Parks Highway and downtown North Pole. Engineering studies and alternative analyses have been completed and only the environmental process remains to be completed to advance to construction. This rail relocation is within a corridor that is designated by the Department of Defense as a Strategic Rail Corridor Network Defense Connector Line that supports delivery of jet fuel from the refinery located in North Pole to DOD installations in Anchorage, AK.

Collision Avoidance System
Alaska Railroad Corporation
Anchorage, Alaska
\$5,000,000

This request will continue to implement a communication-based train control system known as Collision Avoidance System (Positive Train Control). The federal Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 mandated Positive Train Control (PTC) for all Class I railroads and any railroad hauling passengers such as the Alaska Railroad. Previous years' Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and Federal Transit Administration program funds totaling \$38 million have been used to implement train communications and a fail-safe train dispatch control system. These additional funds will complete the program implementation. ARRC's CAS would become the first fully implemented fail-safe ("vital") train control system in the nation.

Anchorage Transit Facility Improvements and Upgrades, Bus Stop Improvements, and Fleet Improvements
Municipality of Anchorage
Anchorage, Alaska
\$350,000

Provide renovation, construction and improvement capital needed to improve safety, reliability and efficiency of public transit within the Municipality of Anchorage. Transit needs include facility improvements and upgrades, bus stop improvements, and fleet improvements.

Coffman Cove Marine Repair and Storage Area
City of Coffman Cove
Coffman Cove, Alaska
\$900,000

Construct a boat haul-out trailer and Marine Repair and Storage Facility including funding for a boat haul-out trailer and storage facility.

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Alaska Ship and Drydock Ketchikan Shipyard**Alaska Ship and Drydock****Ketchikan, Alaska****\$9,900,000**

Construct a ship transfer system, site work and utilities, Operations Center, and Enclosed Ship Production Facilities to establish a sustainable, marine vessel maintenance facility in Ketchikan that has been a priority for Ketchikan and Alaska for 32 years. This project will provide critical vessel maintenance infrastructure at the Ketchikan Shipyard that will assure long term reductions in the cost of operating Alaska's marine transit systems, increase safety-of-life-at-sea, decrease risk to the marine and coastal environment, and increase the sea-day availability of municipal, state and federal marine assets. The project will also provide economic strength and diversity by increasing employment in Ketchikan (up to 250 new jobs) and demonstrate federal workforce and apprenticeship initiatives that can be adopted by the US shipbuilding industry to achieve globally competitive standards. The project will also support Alaska's energy resource exploration, production, and transmission industries and attract new private investment to Ketchikan & Alaska.

ADA Compliant Public Shuttle Vehicle**Ketchikan Gateway Borough****Ketchikan, Alaska****\$75,000**

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough Transit Department, which is an entity of the Ketchikan Gateway Borough works hard to provide safe and reliable transportation for the people of the Ketchikan Gateway Borough. The transit system provided 226,356 rides last year. Currently, all bus routes are ADA accessible, but there is no consistently accessible transportation to the airport. At low tide, the angle of the ramp leading to the ferry is steep enough that certain vehicles, such as large (longer) buses and lowered vans cannot get on the ferry without potentially damaging the vehicle, and some motorized wheelchairs cannot make it up the ramp under their own power.

Port of Anchorage Intermodal Expansion Project**Port of Anchorage****Anchorage, Alaska****\$10,000,000**

Congress has already provided \$23 million in DOT annual appropriations (FHWA and FTA) over FYs 03-07. Further, SAFETEA provided a total of \$57 million of funds over FY 05-09, of which \$30.6 million has been appropriated to date. Funding will be used to continue the Port of Anchorage Intermodal Expansion Project. The expansion project includes numerous activities that will enhance the transportation of goods and services within the Alaska and the nation. The Port of Anchorage is a DHS "Critical Seaport" and the DOT Secretary declared the Port of Anchorage expansion project to be a "nationally significant project." Additional funding, through Port revenues, revenue bonds, and grants from the State of Alaska, will contribute a 48% share of the total funding required for completion of the intermodal expansion project.

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Yuut Elitnaurviat Expansion Project**Yuut Elitnaurviat****Bethel, Alaska****\$3,000,000**

Expand the Yuut Elitnaurviat Technical Education and Support Services Building. The Yuut Elitnaurviat Technical Education and Support Services Building (TESS) is a 20,000 square foot facility designed to house vocational training for the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Region of southwestern Alaska. The current facility will be completed in late March 2009 and will house the United States only Dental Therapy Training Clinic, the regional nursing program, numerous allied health programs and the regional Adult basic education program, which graduates the largest high school class in rural Alaska each year.

TESS will house the Early Childhood education center which will include childcare for infants, toddlers, and preschool children. Students in training at Yuut as well as at the college would have first access to the childcare, which is critically needed in general in Bethel. The Community Health Aide Program, which is the largest Health aide Training Program in Alaska and trains over 100 health aides per year will also be housed at TESS. These individuals are the frontline healthcare providers in Rural Alaska and provide basic health services at the village level. It is also a village based wage-income job that keeps local dollars in the struggling villages.

Yuut offers high level math and science courses. Students will come in for a semester at a time and take courses like pre-calculus, chemistry, advanced biology and physics, as well as classes like Auto CAD and GIS mapping. The intent of the new program is to transition more of rural students into science, engineering and high level healthcare careers in conjunction with the ANSEP program at the University of Alaska.

Raven's Way Biorka Island Building**Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium****Sitka, Alaska****\$1,356,000**

This project includes both design and construction of facilities to replace structures scheduled for demolition on Biorka Island. These facilities are used by the SEARHC Raven's Way Program as a component of their youth substance abuse treatment. Pre-conceptual discussions have begun and include involvement of the local University construction program to explore collaboration to allow students to construct the new buildings as part of a workforce development program.

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Tundra Women's Coalition Facility**Tundra Women's Coalition****Bethel, Alaska****\$2,000,000**

Tundra Women's Coalition (TWC) is the organization that provides emergency shelter, outreach and other programming related to serving victims of family and sexual violence throughout the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. Program elements include emergency shelter, a 24-hour crisis line, a children's program, a group called Teens Acting Against Violence for at-risk teens, legal advocacy, community outreach, limited homeless assistance, transitional housing, 24-hour sexual assault advocacy at the hospital, and a children's advocacy center program called the Children's Center.

For the past four years, TWC has dedicated resources toward developing a capital campaign to replace this deteriorating facility. The reality of construction costs in Southwest Alaska, however, has caused a delay in this project as additional funds have had to be secured. Significant progress has been achieved for the TWC Capital Project in the past year. The land has been cleared and is ready for construction, and with current funding partners, TWC has secured more than \$8 million for this project and has almost \$1million more out in requests. TWC has achieved their funding plan set one year ago.

Kids Corps Headstart Facility**Kids Corps****Anchorage, Alaska****\$1,500,000**

This project provides funds for facility renovations for Kids' Corps, Anchorage.

Kids' Corps, Inc. (KCI) is an Anchorage non-profit United Way partner agency that provides comprehensive Head Start child development programs for young children who live in poverty. KCI currently operates five Head Start Centers in Anchorage, serving an ethnically diverse population, with 424 three and four year olds participating in FY 2008. KCI seeks to consolidate Anchorage operations into one facility centrally.

Sitka Waterfront Development**City and Borough of Sitka****Sitka, Alaska****\$3,000,000**

This multi-purpose dock facility will be located in the center of the Industrial Park waterfront. It will include a sheet pile bulkhead cargo and freight dock which may also serve bulk water tankers from the completed bulk water line. Phase 1 includes a 120 linear foot rock-filled sheet pile bulkhead dock, fender system, and uplands improvements. Phase 2 includes 8 breasting/mooring dolphins and 900 linear feet of catwalks. Completion of this project will provide deep water port facilities in Sitka. It will also permit the \$1.94 million Federal Transit Administration FY2004 earmark to be used to pave the uplands to accommodate public bus service.

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Whittier Waterfront Development and Marine Center

City of Whittier

Whittier, Alaska

\$3,000,000

Funding will construct the Whittier Marine Facility (WMC) for housing federal, state, and municipal agencies that provide important public services in Whittier as part of a Waterfront Development initiative. The multi-use facility will be designed to encourage consolidation of compatible essential community services, eliminating duplication of services and increasing the efficiency with which services are delivered.

Many government agencies would benefit from the proposed joint use facility in Whittier, primarily the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS), but also the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USF&WS), United States Geological Survey (USGS), Alaska State Troopers (AST), Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Alaska State Parks. These agencies currently maintain vessels in the WSBH or temporary facilities in the adjacent uplands. The WMC will be designed to accommodate office, warehouse, shop, and public use needs of our partner agencies, including any security and other special requirements.

Craig Fish Processing and Community Cold Storage Plant

City of Craig

Craig, Alaska

\$750,000

The City of Craig is constructing a new public cold storage and seafood processing facility. This facility will increase the capacity for buying, processing and marketing value added seafood products. The city is using federal, state and local funds to complete this project. Currently the city has secured a total of \$2.3 million in state and federal funding and has dedicated \$560,000 of upland and tideland to the project. The city has completed feasibility studies and permitting with funding from the USDA Forest Service, Economic Development Administration, State of Alaska and City of Craig. The city has selected an operator and started construction in 2008.

Stepping Stones Women and Children Facility

Akeela, Inc.

Anchorage, Alaska

\$2,000,000

For renovations and repair of facility to address health, safety, and energy conservation concerns. New construction will allow residential space to be used for clinical and program space. The Stepping Stones program provides behavioral health services to women living together with their children in a therapeutic environment. While recognized as a powerful and very effective treatment modality—particularly in fighting the affect of inter-generational patterns of abuse and addiction—the harsh fact is that most women requiring this intensity of treatment have long ago lost, either voluntarily or otherwise, custody of their children. Their particular mix of programming and the focus on the treatment of women who have custody of their children, makes the Stepping Stones program unique in Alaska.

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Fire Station and Public Safety Building**City of White Mountain****White Mountain, Alaska****\$857,177**

The City of White Mountain is requesting funding to construct a fire station and public safety garage for its Volunteer Fire Department, Search and Rescue Department, and Village Public Safety Officer. The proposed Public Safety Building will house multiple City functions under one roof. The Volunteer Fire Department, the Search and Rescue Department, and the Village Public Safety officer will all store and maintain their equipment in this facility. Though emergency services training will occur inside and immediately outside the facility, this training will be limited to equipment function and preparation. Classroom type activities, when needed, will take place in other community spaces. In addition, though a small office for the three emergency services will be included in one corner of the building. Secondary purposes of the building are to serve as a base of operations during large scale search and rescue efforts and to provide administrative space for all the public safety departments.

Aleutian and Arctic Vessel Tracking System Expansion**Marine Exchange of Alaska****Juneau, Alaska****\$830,000**

Funding is requested to expand the number of AIS (Automated Identification System) receiving stations at strategic locations along the Aleutian Islands and in the Arctic regions of Alaska to aid maritime safety and environmental protection. The expanded system will receive and process vessels' AIS transponder signals to track and monitor the already high volume of maritime traffic that transits the waters around the Aleutian Islands and the expanding maritime operations in the Arctic. This tracking system will assess the risks to the marine environment presented by transiting vessels, provide early notification of potential marine casualties and aid emergency response by locating vessels that may render assistance as well as help avert the loss of life, property and environmental harm.

Waldon Point Road Paving**Metlakatla Indian Community****Metlakatla, Alaska****\$2,000,000**

Waldon Point Road will be ready to pave in the summer of 2009 beginning in May. This project will provide valuable construction training for the military under adverse conditions. Every branch of the service sends troops to Annette Island and Waldon Point for training. Additionally, the road will cut the State's ferry investment to service Metlakatla; instead of a 1.5 hour run, it will be 20 minutes. This road will help in the economic development of Metlakatla. Metlakatla Indian Community will be able to truck goods and services to the major hub rather than send by boat or barge. People can get jobs in Ketchikan and drive home every evening. This will open up educational opportunities for students to attend University of Alaska Southeast and provide more access to medical services.

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Denali Commission Transportation Program**Denali Commission****Anchorage, Alaska****\$6,000,000**

The Denali Commission's Transportation Program began in late 2005 and focuses on rural roads and waterfront development. Projects funded: Local Roads, Boardwalks, ATV Roads, Community Connection and Economic Development Roads, Regional Ports and Local Small Boat Harbors, and Barge Landings

The Denali Commission is an independent federal agency designed to provide critical utilities, infrastructure, and economic support throughout Alaska. With the creation of the Denali Commission, Congress acknowledged the need for increased inter-agency cooperation and focus on Alaska's remote communities. Since its first meeting in April 1999, the Commission is credited with providing numerous cost-shared infrastructure projects across the State that exemplify effective and efficient partnership between federal and state agencies, and the private sector. The Denali Commission will partner with tribal, federal, state, and local governments and collaborate with all Alaskans to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of government services, to develop a well trained labor force employed in a diversified and sustainable economy, and to build and ensure the operation and maintenance of Alaska's basic infrastructure.

Hartney Bay Subdivision Road**Native Village of Eyak****Cordova, Alaska****\$2,500,000**

The Hartney Bay Project / Whitshed Extension Project - Phase 2 will construct 2.55 miles of road through the 323 lot Hartney Bay Subdivision and provide access to buildable lots that have been contributed by the Eyak Corporation to community members. This project will include Resurveying right-of-ways and lots, permitting road construction through the Army Corps of Engineers as well as construction of the road through the subdivision. The project will also replat the survey to the same 323 lots so that the owners have clear title and enabling them to obtain loans to construct new houses on the land they own.

Senator Begich
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Mt. View Blighted Properties and Commercial Corridor Revitalization
Anchorage Community Land Trust
Anchorage, Alaska
\$5,000,000

Funding will rehabilitate and renew key blighted property along Mountain View Drive including the six parcel John's RV Site. The site will be redeveloped as a multi-disciplinary arts center to create infrastructure to anchor the neighborhood's urban renewal, commercial redevelopment and jobs creation project. The arts center, planned over the last four years by an energized group of community members, will include light industrial space, artist studios, a writing center, gallery, performance spaces, a café, outdoor activity areas and offices. The facility will provide needed infrastructure to anchor the neighborhood revitalization effort, attract businesses and visitors to the area, and invite active community participation.

Thank you for your consideration of these worthy projects in my state.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending items I have requested, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate. I further certify I have posted a description of the items requested on my official website, along with the accompanying justification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Begich", is positioned above the printed name.

Mark Begich
United States Senator